



## Post Shorts

### Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Oct. 10, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

### Fall/winter hunting cancelled on APG

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Hunting Program for fall 2001/winter 2002 is cancelled as a result of increased force protection requirements.

Refunds will be coordinated through the Directorate for Community and Family Activities.

For more information, call Cheryl Roark, 410-278-4124/5789.

### Hunting permits refunded for 2001 season

Refunds for Aberdeen Proving Ground hunting permits will be administered through the Outdoor Recreation Office, building 2407. Refunds will automatically be processed so hunters do not need to call or visit Outdoor Recreation. All hunters will receive their refunds via check and/or credit card refund through the mail.

For more information, call the Equipment Resource Center, 410-278-4124.

### Closures at KUSAHC

Effective immediately the After Hours Clinic at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will be closed on Sundays and holidays. Patients needing advice on their health care can call the Nurse Advice Line at 1-800-308-3518. If you feel you have an emergency problem, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.

### MWR opens for lunch Oct. 15

Beginning Oct. 15, the Post Recreation Center, building 3326, will be open for lunch, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Menu will include but not be limited to cheeseburgers, cheese steaks, hot sandwiches, appetizers and snacks.

For more information call, 410-278-2621.

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Defense of Freedom medal unveiled



# Community honors POW/MIAs

By Yvonne Johnson  
APG News

On a sun-drenched field, amid billowing American flags and banners from local veteran organizations, more than 200 people gathered for Harford County's observance of the National Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Remembrance Day on Sept. 23 at the William A. Humbert Amphitheater in Bel Air.

Sponsored by the Harford County Commission on Veterans Affairs, the ceremony was dedicated to those killed or injured in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

"The sun is shining and the nation remains free and strong," said retired Col. Norman Boskind, chairman, Vietnam Veterans of America, as he opened the program. "What a fitting day to honor America's Prisoners of War and Missing in Action."

"The events of Sept. 11 may have heightened all of our awareness of sacrifices," Boskind added. "Let us take time to honor all the victims and families along with POWs and MIAs."

Master of ceremonies, retired Navy Lt. Edward T. Kreiner Sr., noting the appearance of American flags "everywhere you look since the attack on America," recounted

See POW/MIA, page 13



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Bearing American flags and unit banners, honor guard elements from Harford County and the state of Maryland stand ready to the present the colors during the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Remembrance Ceremony. The program was dedicated to those killed or injured during the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on America. Units shown include the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Korean War Veterans Maryland Chapter, Women's Army Corps Veterans Association, Vietnam Veterans of America, American Legion Post 39, the Harford County Sheriff's Department and Maryland Transportation Authority Police.

# Unsung heroes saluted at retirement ceremony

By E. C. Starnes  
OC&S

As soldiers from the 16th Ordnance Battalion and the 389th U.S. Army Band (AMC's Own) looked on, 11 civilian employees from Aberdeen Proving Ground were honored for their service to the nation at Ordnance Circle Sept. 26.

Nearly four centuries of combined federal service time was recognized by Maj. Gen. Mitchell Stevenson, commander of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools.

"The past weeks have shown us the burden we bear when we promise to protect and defend our nation. It has shown us that the enemy can come from anywhere. And it has shown us that we are not immune to attacks in our homeland."

"What we define as normal in our world has changed, but what we know we can expect from

hard-working, dedicated members of our team like those who stand before us is unchanged.

"Today," Stevenson noted, "we salute a group of Americans whom have demonstrated their patriotism, their unity of purpose, their inner strength and their willingness to go that extra mile, for a combined total of 381 years. We have seen footage every day during the past two weeks of American heroes at work during a very trying time. This group that stands before you today have been heroes, for the most part unsung heroes, as they performed their duties during careers that range from 26 to 40 years."

"Our nation's political and military leaders," he continued, "have called upon all Americans to band together and to support each other as we face our latest challenge. Our retirees know full well the amount of sacrifice, personal and professional courage, and determination that is

See RETIREMENT, page 7



Photo by E.C.STARNES

## CFC campaign enters first week

By Yvonne Johnson  
APG News

The 2001 Combined Federal Campaign began Oct. 1 on Aberdeen Proving Ground and unit representatives are gearing up to meet the command's goal of \$400,000.

"We hope to increase payroll deductions by \$2 per contributor and increase Eagle level contributions overall," said Wayne Doyel, CFC chairperson.

For the 2001 campaign, local artist and U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center employee Chris White created yet another Eagle Print to be presented to donors of \$1,000 or more. The dramatic print depicts an eagle in flight. A framed, signed, limited-edition print will be presented to donors on a date to be announced.

Other donor recognition awards include the Oriole Award, a white bag clip with the CFC logo in blue for donations of \$100 to \$249; the Cardinal Award, a red picture frame with white CFC logo suitable for sitting atop a computer for donations of \$250 to \$499; and the Falcon Award, a white T-shirt with a red and blue CFC logo to those who donate \$500 to \$999.

In addition, the Central Maryland CFC is sponsoring a drawing for two USAir round trip tickets to anywhere in the nation for CFC donors. Names drawn locally will be sent to Baltimore to be included in the statewide drawing.

Col. Mardi U. Mark, APG garrison and deputy installation commander will draw the winning name on Nov. 14, Doyel

See CFC, page 6

# Bishop brings message of hope, strength to prayer breakfast

By Yvonne Johnson  
APG News

Bishop Francis X. Roque, vicar for Veterans Affairs of the Archdiocese for the Military Services in Washington, D.C., spoke at the 61st Ordnance Brigade prayer breakfast Sept. 26 at Top of the Bay.

Roque told the assembled soldiers, airmen and Marines that the military prayer breakfast is a tradition that serves as a reminder of the moral values on which the country was founded.

"It is an occasion to grow and to realize the importance and power of prayer," Roque said.

He shared the story of Father Emil J. Kapaun, an Army chaplain and POW who died in captivity during the Korean War. The priest became the morale-builder of his group, centering his life on the sick and wounded, Roque

said.

"He held services even though they were banned, and always volunteered for burial details despite the threat of disease, so he could pray over soldier's remains," Roque said.

The Catholic Church hopes that Father Emil will be declared a saint one day," he added.

Drawing a parallel, Roque told the audience "we all are living in a difficult time, yet the nation has come together."

"Churches are filling around the world, people are praying for guidance and there is a new appreciation for firefighters, the police, medical personnel and soldiers," in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

"The military has always been recognized as those who help others," Roque said.

"We are taught to endure

hardships. Our goal is to make the world a safer place."

He told of the many letters of support his office has received from around the world supporting the armed forces in the president's new war on terrorism.

"God has a way of turning things around," he said. "In moments of difficulty and tragedy we find our greatest strength. May you find strength in each other and in Him in prayer."

Col. John R. Hills, brigade commander, led the event that included readings by 1st Sgt. Todd Gilchrist, U.S. Air Force Detachment, and Maj. Dan Mielke, U.S. Marine Corps Detachment, the invocation by Maj. Ernest Vermont, 61st Ordnance Brigade Chaplain, the benediction by Capt. Theiring Alexander, 16th Ordnance Company chaplain, and the introduction of the

See PRAYER, page 6



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Col. John R. Hills, left, commander 61st Ordnance Brigade, looks on as Lt. Col. Ernest Vermont, center, brigade chaplain, describes an original piece of art work before presenting it to Bishop Francis X. Roque, right, in appreciation of his keynote address at the unit's Prayer Breakfast. Roque is the vicar for Veterans Affairs from the Archdiocese for the Military Services.



**Post Shorts**

*SHORTS, from front page*

**PIE meeting cancelled for October**

The Parent Information Exchange, or PIE, for Exceptional Family Members will not be meeting for the month of October. For further assistance, contact Reeshemah Bugg, EFMP manager, 410-278-7478/7474.

**MWR events cancelled, postponed**

In light of the recent terrorist attacks, the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center command has postponed or rescheduled two fall Morale, Welfare and Recreation entertainment events.

The Battle of Bands scheduled for Oct. 10 to 14 at Fort Jackson, S.C., has been postponed and the talent search, Stars of Tomorrow, scheduled for Nov. 10 at Fort Belvoir, Va., has been cancelled.

“The safety of soldiers is our top priority, and right now the guidance is to keep non-essential travel to a minimum,” said Marcy Stennes, acting director of Community Recreation.

The Theater BRAVO! touring production of The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) is still scheduled to begin in November. Cast selections are currently underway with rehearsals slated to start in October at Fort Belvoir.

The U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center is the Headquarters, Department of the Army agency responsible for the Morale, Welfare and Recreation program that includes Army Entertainment. For more information call 703-681-1548 or DSN 761-1548.

**Help needed to plan future MWR activities**

The Morale, Welfare, and Recreation staff at Aberdeen Proving Ground would like to hear opinions about recreation and leisure programs and services offered on APG.

Volunteers are needed to participate in focus groups to discuss current and future programs and services offered on APG in areas like sports, fitness, bowling, golf, auto care, libraries, travel services, arts and crafts, indoor and outdoor recreation, classes, special events, etc.

Groups will meet periodically for no more than one hour in the Community Recreation Division conference room, building 3330 (the old Russell gym).

The information collected from the groups will be used in the planning of future MWR programs and services at APG.

If you want to be heard, contact MWR Marketing Director Gwen Meadows at 410-278-4497, or e-mail gwen.meadows@usag.apg.army.mil.

**New number for leisure travel office**

The new Carlson Wagonlit Leisure Travel Office telephone number is 410-272-7124.

**Red Cross schedules upcoming drives**

During this most difficult time, the American Red Cross continues its commitment to ensuring an adequate, safe blood supply. To schedule an appointment, call the APG Red Cross office at 410-278-2087.

Future American Red Cross drives include:

- Nov. 13      Edgewood Chapel
- Nov. 8        U.S. Army Research Lab
- Dec. 3        U.S. Aberdeen Test Center

The Mad Cow deferral criteria remains unchanged until approximately Oct. 15, 2001. The current criteria excludes donors who spent a cumulative time of six months or more in the United Kingdom between 1980 and 1996. Those donors are deferred indefinitely.

The American Red Cross appreciates everyone’s support. For more information, contact Daria Lynne Avila, American Red Cross Blood Services, 1-800-728-5411, 410-939-7084 or pager 410-232-5814.

**Thrift Shop accepting welfare request applications**

The Aberdeen Area Thrift Shop is accepting applications for Welfare Requests. All requests must be dropped off during regular business hours or mailed to Aberdeen Area Thrift Shop, building 2458, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005. The deadline for requests is Oct. 31. The thrift shop is open Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and every first Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Fast-track fall courses begin Oct. 25 at HCC**

Students can earn credits toward a degree in eight weeks in a fall session beginning Oct. 25 and ending Dec. 18. Students may register in person or add a class through Oct. 24 at Harford Community College’s Aberdeen Proving Ground Center, building 3146, Raritan Avenue, Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to

5 p.m. and alternate Friday’s (Oct. 12 and 26) from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information call 410-272-2338 or 410-278-0516. Fall term II includes courses in automotive technology, criminal justice, geography, history, human development, office systems, physical education, psychology, and speech.

Registration is also underway at HCC’s Student Center. Hours of registration are Monday to Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Payment is due at the time of registration. HCC accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express. Mail-in and fax registrations must be received by Oct. 24, and registration must be accompanied by credit card payment information, including account number, expiration date, and signature. HCC fax registration forms are available in the Schedule of Credit Classes pamphlet, which was mailed to all Harford County residents, or from HCC’s Office of Registration and Records.

For more information, call 410-836-4222 or 410-879-8920, ext. 222 or stop by the Registration and Records area in the Student Center.

Fall term II schedule of classes, applications for admission, and registration forms are available on the College’s Web site [www.harford.cc.md.us](http://www.harford.cc.md.us).

**Pollution Prevention**

*Be alert to product labels that may indicate that a product is dangerous and requires special disposal considerations.*



*-APG Pollution Prevention Program, Hazardous Materials Management Policy*

**Applications being accepted to West Point**

Capt. Cliff Hodges, from the West Point Admissions Office, will be at the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools’ Ball Conference Center in Dickenson Hall, building 3074, Oct. 11 at 9 a.m. to brief soldiers on the application process. Interested soldiers should contact their chain of command and arrange for time to attend this briefing. All interested soldiers are encouraged to attend regardless of high school academic performance.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Stanley Edwards or Sgt.1st Class Ann Westman, 410-278-2769/3184.

**Gate operations at APG**

The Harford Gate (Route 22) in the Aberdeen Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground closes each weeknight at 8 p.m. The Maryland Boulevard Gate, Route 715, (Tank Row) is the only 24 hour-a-day, seven-day-per-week access point to the Aberdeen Area. The Harford Gate continues to be closed each Friday at 8 p.m. and remains closed until 4 a.m. on Monday (unless Monday is a federal holiday, when it reopens at 4 a.m. on Tuesday).

Until further notice, the only gate open in the Edgewood Area from 8 p.m. Friday through 4 a.m. Monday is Route 24 in Edgewood.

**Base closing announcement info**

Employees of Aberdeen Proving Ground concerned about whether or not to report to work should call 410-278-7669 (SNOW). Television channels 2, 11, 13 and 45, as well as radio stations WAMD, WXCY, WBAL, WIYY, WPOC, WDEL, WSTW, WSBA, WARM and WROZ will also carry this information. When in doubt, contact your supervisor.

**School bus drop offs reiterated**

If the Harford County public schools experience an unscheduled early dismissal and there is not an adult available to meet young children, or if a bus cannot access an on-post bus stop, the bus will take the children to the Youth Centers. Youth Center staff will attempt to contact the parents.

It is imperative that parents tape a card inside each child’s book bag with the child’s name, address, telephone number, and emergency points of contact. If young children arrive at the Youth Center and do not have this information or do not know how to reach their parents, the Youth Center staff has no way to communicate with the parents.

This policy applies during an unscheduled early dismissal or in the event of an emergency when the bus does not have access to a particular bus stop. Routinely, if young children are not met

by an adult at the bus stop, the bus will return children to the school and school personnel will contact the child’s parents.

For additional information, contact Linda Holloway, Aberdeen Proving Ground school liaison officer, at 410-306-4520.

**Counseling through Behavioral Health at KUSAHC**

In this time of need, the personnel at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic are doing what they can to assist the military family in the wake of the recent tragedy in New York and at the Pentagon.

Behavioral Health Care Services at KUSAHC is offering services to the Aberdeen Proving Ground community. Military personnel and their family members are eligible to receive services at KUSAHC. Civilians will be evaluated for proper referrals to outside agencies.

For anyone that has been touched by this tragedy, help is just a phone call away at 410-278-1715.

**Army guidance available on Operation Noble Eagle**

Breaking news, command messages and guidance for the Army family is now being offered on a new U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command-sponsored Web site: <http://tradoc.monroe.army.mil/nobleeagle>. Activated Sept. 19, the new site will focus on current news stories about recovery operations, world events and Army activities resulting from the recent terrorist attacks along the east coast. Linked pages carry information on hotlines and Web sites connected with recovery operations, family readiness, and frequently asked questions addressed via message board.

**APGFCU accepting donations**

Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union is collecting donations for the Army Emergency Relief Fund, American Red Cross and the Salvation Army to help disaster victims and families through the current crisis, which resulted from the terrorists attacks on Sept. 11. Collection jars are located in all branches.

For more information, call Tina L. Ripken, APGFCU market development director, 410-893-7359.

**Submitting articles to APG News under Force Protection Condition Delta**

In preparation for any future Force Protection Condition Delta, an e-mail mailbox is available to receive news for publication in APG News at [editor@apgnews.com](mailto:editor@apgnews.com). This should only be used when “mission essential” personnel are reporting to Aberdeen Proving Ground. The paper will then be prepared and published at Homestead Publishing Company in Bel Air rather than at the APG office.

**Hours curtailed at KUSAHC**

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will hold Organization Day Oct. 4 and observe a training holiday Oct. 5. The After-Hours Clinic will be open both days from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

KUSAHC will observe Columbus Day on Oct. 8. The After-Hours Clinic will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. during the holiday observance. Appointments during curtailed hours can be made through Nurse Triage at 410-278-1751.

**KUSAHC offers classes**

The following classes will be held in the Preventive Medicine conference room (Room A-12) at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. For more information and to register for a class, call Preventive Medicine, 410-278-1964.

**Lunchtime tobacco cessation:** Classes are scheduled for four consecutive Thursdays from noon to 1 p.m., Oct. 4, 11, 18 and 25. All military beneficiaries are invited to attend.

**Asthma education:** One two-hour class for asthma patients and parents and sponsors of asthma patients will be held Oct. 25 7 to 9 p.m. Topics will include an overview of asthma, preventing attacks, developing a personal asthma action plan, triggers that may cause attacks or symptoms and use of a peak flow meter and MDI/spacer. All TRICARE beneficiaries are invited to attend.

**Take care of yourself:** The Take Care of Yourself class will be held the first and third Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. All patients enrolled in TRICARE Prime are eligible to attend. The purpose of the class is to teach patients how to treat minor illnesses and injuries at home and when to see a doctor.

Attendees will receive a Medicine Cabinet Card which will allow them to request specific over-the-counter medications without having to see a Primary Care Provider. This education class and pharmacy privilege is limited to TRICARE Prime enrollees only. **To enroll, call 410-278-1725.**

**APG News**

The *APG News*, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the *APG News* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM, APG, MD 21005-5005, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 13,500.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source.

Editorial content is prepared, edited and approved by the APG Public Affairs Office. The *APG News* is printed by Homestead Publishing Company, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with APG. The civilian printer is responsible for commercial advertising. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army or Homestead Publishing Company of the products or services advertised.

**For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 324, Second Floor, AMSSB-GIM, APG, MD 21005-5005; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; fax it to 410-278-2570; or e-mail it to [editor@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:editor@usag.apg.army.mil).**

**Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday’s paper.**

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**SIGNS FOR THE TIMES**



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

A sign on the Route 22 median outside Aberdeen Proving Ground’s Harford Boulevard Gate reminds motorists of the patriotic tide that has swept the nation since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on America. Cub Scout Pack 200 from St. Joan of Arc School decorated the median with red, white, and blue stars and two signs facing incoming and outgoing traffic to the installation’s main entrance. The other sign reads, “God Bless America.”



# Proclamation: Fire Prevention Week Oct 7 - 13, 2001



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND  
ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, MARYLAND 21005-5001



Interrupting a decades-long decline, total civilian fire deaths rose to 4,045 last year. Civilian fire injuries rose to 22,350, and 102 firefighters made the ultimate sacrifice in battling fires in 2000. In addition, 88,000 firefighters were injured protecting life and property across our great land. Fire Departments across the United States responded to 1,708,000 fires. In other words, every 18 seconds a fire department responded to a fire somewhere in the U.S.

We will join with the rest of the nation in observing National Fire Prevention Week. This year's theme established by the National Fire Protection Association is "Cover the Bases and Strike Out Fire."

It is very important for people to know two ways to get out of a building. It is the first line of defense against the threat of fire. Take the time during Fire Prevention Week to test your smoke detectors. Your survival may depend on it. Follow the manufacturer's instructions when using alternative heating appliances. REMEMBER, the use of kerosene space heaters is prohibited throughout the installation. Never use a stove as alternate heat source and always be attentive when cooking.

The threat of fire makes no exceptions to members of the armed forces. I strongly urge everyone at Aberdeen Proving Ground to actively participate in fire prevention activities during Fire Prevention Week and every week throughout the year. Learn to recognize and eliminate fire hazards at home and at work. THINK fire prevention, then ACT to reduce the potential loss of life and property due to fire.

JOHN C. DOESBURG  
Major General, USA  
Commanding

## How to protect yourself in a chemical emergency

By Kathy DeWeese  
ECA

Aberdeen Proving Ground Fire and Emergency Services Division will be going door-to-door to hand out double-sided magnets to the APG community beginning Oct. 22. Steps to protect yourself in the event of a chemical, hazardous materials or severe weather emergency are described on one side of the magnet, while the reverse side explains the emergency siren system in place at APG and in southern Harford County. The magnets are being distributed to serve as reminders to APG residents and employees about emergency actions here.

Emergency response actions at APG may include the following directions, which are described on the magnets. If you are directed to "shelter in place," calmly move indoors if you are outside, or if you are in a car, close all doors, vents and windows. Do not call "911" unless you are reporting a life-threatening situation. All ventilation systems should be turned off, including heat or air conditioning. Move to an interior room with few windows or doors to

the outside. Stay indoors until you receive notice from either WAPG-TV Cable Channel 3 or the following Harford County emergency alert radio stations that it is safe to go outdoors.

WAMD (970 AM)  
WXCY (103.7)  
WBAL (1090 AM)  
WHFC (91.1 FM)

A system of 15 sirens designed to alert people who are outside has the capability to emit a warning tone followed by a digital voice message. The system is tested the first Wednesday of the month at 4 p.m. Nine sirens are located in Harford County. Five sirens are located in the Edgewood Area of the proving ground, and one siren is located in the southern section of the Aberdeen Area. Below are the voice messages the system can emit, however people should not go outdoors in order to listen to a siren voice message.

**Test, followed by the voice message:** Test.Test. This is a test of the emergency warning system. This is only a test. If this had been an actual emergency, you would have been instructed to tune to either Cable Channel 3 or local emer-

gency radio stations. This is only a test. (Repeat)

**Severe weather, followed by the voice message:** Warning.Warning. Severe weather warning. A severe weather warning has been issued for this area. Seek shelter immediately. Tune to either Cable Channel 3 or local emergency radio stations for instruction. (Repeat)

**Hazardous materials accident, followed by the voice message:** Warning. Warning.

See PROTECT, page 6

## Commentary:

### APG firefighter overwhelmed by events

I understand that people get tired of reading proclamations that are filled with statistics, but this one hits close to home.

Every year, the National Fire Prevention Week observance brings with it the somber task of honoring fallen firefighters across the country who lost their lives protecting life and property. On average, 100 firefighters lose their lives in the line of duty each year. We can only imagine how the nations' emergency responders must feel after the devastation of Sept. 11, which also was National 911 Day.

In the New York tragedy, 343 firefighters have died thus far, more than twice the number

lost in the average year.

Watching our brother and sister firefighters deal with the adversity surrounding the clean up at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and the field in Pennsylvania is overwhelming for we firefighters because our first instinct is to run to the aid of victims or fellow workers. We would like to be up there helping our comrades but we can only be there in spirit.

Our hearts are heavy for all the lost emergency responders and their families. In memory of them, we have draped the firehouse in black.

On Oct. 6 and 7, APG firefighter George  
See COMMENTARY, page 4

3 x5  
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ab shoe

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# New telephone billing system in effect

**By Yvonne Johnson**  
*APG News*

A new billing system for government telephones on Aberdeen Proving Ground went into effect on Oct. 1. The K&R Telecommunication Management System provides the Directorate of Information Management with the ability to track all calls made, on and off post.

Users should be cognizant of how they use government telephones. Corrective actions may be taken for suspected abuse, said Brenda Saddler, program analyst, DOIM.

“The average person won’t be affected

unless they are abusing the system,” Saddler said

In addition, telephone operators will no longer transfer incoming calls to off-post extensions, however they will continue to place Health, Morale and Welfare calls for servicemembers and Department of Defense civilians calling from remote or isolated locations on official business.

Saddler added that employees should be reminded that calls made on DoD telephone systems, with very limited exceptions, should be for official business only. Official business calls are defined as calls that are necessary and in the interest of the

government; calls directly related to the conduct of DoD business or having a direct impact on DoD’s ability to conduct business. Defense Switched Networks, or DSN, should be used whenever possible.

Telephone Control Officers, will be looking for possible abuse trends appearing regularly on organization telephone bills. For example, repeated, long duration calls to the same number; frequently dialed numbers; weekend and international calls and calls to Internet providers will be investigated. TCOs will also scrutinize local/long distance calls and their durations.

## First lady helps Troops To Teachers program

*Courtesy of Military.com*

American Forces Press Service reports the Defense Department’s Troops to Teachers program used to be low-key until first lady Laura Bush energized it this year by making it a personal cause. Mrs. Bush’s interest in the program has really generated a tremendous amount of response in the military.

In addition, President Bush had asked Congress for a 10-fold funding increase for Troops to Teachers, from \$3 million to \$30 million.

Troops to Teachers was created in 1994 to help departing servicemembers obtain second careers during the military downsizing of the 1990s. The Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support at Pensacola, Fla., oversees the program. The program largely consists of job referral and placement services and has placed more than 4,000 retirees in teaching positions nationwide since its inception.

Eligible applicants must have served for at least six continuous years on active duty prior to release from service, have a service record that will lead to an honorable discharge, and apply no later than one year after release from active duty. Most applicants must have a bachelor’s degree in the subjects they want to teach. Other applicants may possess technical training that translates into vocational- technical teaching opportunities.

Reserve component members may use the placement assistance services provided by Troops to Teachers. They should check with program officials on application criteria.

For more information about the Troops to Teachers program, call the DANTES toll-free number at 1-800-452-6616; visit the program Web site at [voled.doded.mil/dantes/ttt/](http://voled.doded.mil/dantes/ttt/); or write: Defense Activity of Non-traditional Education Support 6490 Sauflay Field Road, Pensacola, Florida 32509-5243.

If you are interested in earning your bachelor’s or master’s degree, you can find schools with programs designed for military personnel at Military.com. You can also request free information from schools that value military experience, and accept GI Bill and Military Tuition Assistance.

For more information, visit: [www.military.com/Careers/Education/1,,112,00.html](http://www.military.com/Careers/Education/1,,112,00.html)

## Suggestions for change rewarded by Army

**By Marjorie Sexton**  
*DOIM*

The Army Ideas for Excellence Program, or AIEP, is an incentive program that encourages soldiers and civilians within the Department of the Army to submit ideas that, if adopted, will result in increased efficiencies and reduced costs.

AIEP allows employees to document ideas and provides the command a method of recognizing those ideas which make a difference. It challenges soldiers and civilians to submit ideas that increase the efficiency and productivity of the Army. Implemented ideas can result in dollar savings, streamlined processes, higher quality products, faster cycle times or process improvements that save organizations time and/or money.

To be accepted in the AIEP, an idea must be submitted on



DA Form 1045 (Army Ideas For Excellence Program Proposal.) It must benefit the Army or other U.S. government activity. The problem or situation must be presented with a proposed solution, which includes sufficient rationale to support the requested new procedure.

Evaluations will be prepared using a DA Form 2440 (Suggestion Evaluation). The AIEP policy and procedures are published in AR 5-17.

Awards are based on the tangible and intangible first-year savings or benefits documented by the evaluator.

The new location of the AIEP Office is U.S. Army Garrison APG, Directorate of Information Management, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM-B, Building 324, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-0944.

# Commentary

*From page 3*

Hollenbaugh and I will represent the Aberdeen Proving Ground Fire Department at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service in Emmitsburg, Md. Firefighters from across the country will escort families of fallen firefighters to the annual event. We will try to provide them comfort and reassurance in this time of grief. I know that I will leave there with a heavy heart but full of hope for a better, safer tomorrow.

**Let’s keep all the victims and families of Sept. 11 in our prayers**  
**Let’s also refresh our fire prevention skills during National Fire Prevention Week.**  
**Everyone should learn how not to burn.**

Andre Fournier  
Fire Protection Specialist  
Fire and Emergency Services Division  
Directorate of Safety, Health & Environment

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# ATC employee helps in crisis

**By Sheila Little**  
*APG News*

In the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist incidents, many tried to think of ways to help alleviate the pain and suffering of those directly affected. One U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center employee was among those who assisted in the days following the attacks.

Veronica Brown, an ATC equipment specialist and a member of the Central Maryland Chapter of the American Red Cross Disaster Action Team, assisted by being among those manning the telephones at the Harford County Emergency Response Center in Hickory.

Asked to help out just a few hours after the terrorist attacks, Brown was granted leave and headed straight for the ERC, where she handled phone calls until 2 a.m.

The volunteer, who also gives disaster preparedness briefings and organizes and assists at blood drives, in addition to responding to disasters, returned less than 12 hours later for an additional shift at the phones, answering questions from worried residents and from those who wanted to help by giving blood or assisting in other capacities.

“The outpouring (of those wanting to help) was just wonderful,” Brown said. She said that although setting up an additional blood donation site was considered,

*“Volunteering is like a prescription for the soul.”*

*Veronica Brown*  
*ATC equipment specialist*

in the end it was decided that willing blood donors should donate over the next several weeks or make appointments to alleviate the long lines at blood centers.

A Red Cross volunteer for 10 years, Brown first heard about opportunities to help disaster victims during a speech delivered at a Toastmaster’s meeting.

“The speech was about helping in the community,” Brown said. “I listened and

thought, ‘I could do that.’”

After hearing of the many opportunities available and how much help was needed, Brown got in touch with the Red Cross and began her very active volunteer career.

As a member of the night and weekend disaster response team, Brown has given up many hours of sleep, assisting those affected by fires or other disasters throughout the county.

Recognized for her many hours of volunteerism by the Red Cross and Aberdeen Proving Ground in recent years, Brown has been honored as a Red Cross Volunteer of the Month and as the APG Civilian Volunteer of the Year in 2000. In April, she delivered the keynote address as APG recognized the Volunteers of the Year for 2001. In her address she noted that volunteering is “like a prescription for the soul.”

If you’d like more information on how to become a community volunteer for the American Red Cross, call the Harford County District Office, Central Maryland Chapter, 410-879-6984.

## Early detection of breast cancer is the best defense

**By BethAnn Cameron, M.S.**  
*CHPPM*

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women. Early detection of breast cancer is the most important defense for reducing deaths from this disease.

All women are at risk, but the risk increases with age. By age 20, the risk is one out of 2,187; by age 30, the risk is one out of 258; by age 40, the risk is one out of 67; by age 50, the risk is one out of 38 and by age 60, the risk is one out of 29.

Breast cancer has a high cure rate of approximately 90 percent when detected early. Early detection gives women more treatment options.

There is no definite way to prevent breast cancer. For good overall health, it is important to exercise, eat right and manage stress. The early detection of breast cancer does reduce the risk of other serious illnesses and death.

The American Cancer Society supports a combination of three techniques for early breast cancer detection. These techniques are breast self-examination, or BSE, mammography, and a physician’s examination.

Women, not physicians, find most breast lumps. According to the ACS, only 22 percent of women practice regular BSE. Some of the common reasons given for not practicing BSE are a lack of knowledge about the technique, lack of self-confidence in ability to perform BSE, lack of motivation, and a lack of knowledge of recommended breast health guidelines. Learning and using the three techniques can help women detect breast cancer.

Breast self-examination is a health habit that involves looking at and feeling both breasts with your fingers to check for lumps. A BSE is recommended once a month, every month after age 20.

Perform the examination 7

to 10 days after a menstrual period, and if no longer having periods, pick a date that will be easily remembered.

Do BSE in each of these three positions: lying down, standing in the shower or tub, or standing in front of a mirror.

Look for a lump or thickening that is noticed over a period of time; any change in the size or shape of the breast; or a nipple discharge, dimpling or scaling of the skin or nipple.

When performing BSE, Use a set pattern — circular, wedge, strip pattern — feel under the arm and around the collarbones; use the pads of your middle three fingers; keep fingers flat and have firm compression.

Mammography is a specialized set of x-rays of the breast in which the breasts are placed between two plastic plates and pressed to get a picture of the inside of the breast. It detects 90 to 95 percent of all breast cancer. Recommendations for having a mammogram are to have a baseline mammogram

by age 40, and repeat the mammogram every year after age 40.

A physician’s examination is an in-depth examination by a doctor or health care provider in which the breasts are thoroughly examined for lumps, discoloration, dimpling, scaling, and other irregularities. This examination is recommended every three years between ages 20 and 40 and every year after age 40.

Learn more about BSE and breast cancer prevention from the National Cancer Institute, 1-800-4-CANCER; the National Alliance of Breast Cancer Organizations, 212-889-0606/1-888-806-2226; the National Breast Cancer Coalition, 202-296-7477 or 1-800-622-2838; the Susan G. Komen Breast Foundation, 1-800-IMAWAREY-ME; the National Organization for Breast Cancer Information and Support, 1-800-221-2141 and the American Cancer Society, 1-800-ACS-2345.

## Anthrax vaccine shown not harmful to women's reproductive system

**By Harry Noyes**  
*Army News Service*

A study conducted by an Army preventive-medicine officer has calmed concerns that anthrax vaccinations might damage the reproductive success of military women.

Maj. Andrew R. Wiesen tracked the health of 4,092 active-duty service women. Out of that number, 513 women became pregnant during the course of the 15-month study, including 384 women who had been vaccinated against anthrax.

Compared to unvaccinated women, the vaccinated soldiers were just as likely to get pregnant and just as likely to give birth to healthy babies, Wiesen studies indicated. Birth problems and defects were no more frequent for the vaccinated moms than for others.

The study was conducted at Fort Stewart, Ga. All of the women in the study were stationed at Fort Stewart or nearby Hunter Army Airfield.

“Pregnancy is an outcome

that is almost never studied with vaccination, given the inherent difficulties in studies of that nature,” Wiesen said. “We were just very fortunate to have a set of databases that allowed us to get the information we needed when we needed it.”

Wiesen was chief of preventive medicine at Fort Stewart’s Winn Army Community Hospital during the study, which ended in March 2000. He has since transferred to Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, Wash., as chief of epidemiology.

Wiesen initiated and conducted the study on his own, but his protocol was reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review Board of the department of clinical investigation at Southeast Regional Medical Command. He was assisted by Capt. Christopher Littell, a pediatrician who served as a subject matter expert on adverse birth outcomes.

Wiesen reported on the preliminary study results to a committee of the Institute of Medicine in July. He acknowledged that a larger study might

*See VACCINE, page 12*

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# Tilley tells soldiers to know the basics

By Joe Burlas  
*Army News Service*

In these uncertain times following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the New York City World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the Army’s top NCO is advising soldiers to know the basics of their profession.

Those basics include knowing how to fire your weapon, first aid, how to do your job and ensuring that the equipment you need to do that job is on hand, said Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley.

“There is a lot of fear and uncertainty out there because of these horrific attacks— both in the Army and in the general American public — and that’s perfectly understandable,” Tilley

said. “What people are most afraid of is the unknown. What I learned as a young soldier in Vietnam was to listen carefully to what my sergeant had to say and that if I knew the basics, I didn’t have much to be afraid of.”

Tilley has sent two messages to the field since the Sept. 11 attacks, assuring all soldiers that Army senior leadership is fully engaged in caring for victims and their family members, and sorting out what is to be done. He exhorted sergeants not to worry what comes next but rather stay focused on the main responsibility all NCOs share — taking care of their troops with sure and steady hands.

Caring for troops means keeping the lines of communication open, Tilley said.

“If anything, the need for communication is now more important than ever. People deal with stress differently, but it impacts all of us eventually,” Tilley wrote. “The best way to help our people in times like these is simply to talk with them and let them know it’s okay to show emotion, to talk about what they’re feeling and seek out chaplains, counselors, friends and leaders for help.”

It also means encouraging soldiers to communicate with their family members as they too are troubled by the attacks, he wrote.

The Army’s top sergeant major asked everyone to be patient with the increased protective measures that are being put in place at all installations. Yes, it may mean long lines and more time to get on post, but, “What is more important,” Tilley said, “the lives of fellow Americans or 15 minutes of your time?”

While the attacks were horrible, Tilley said he has noticed increased patriotism among all Americans, not just the military. He recounted how the day after the attacks a reserve soldier was getting gas for his car and when he went to pay, the attendant said it was on him as the soldier was helping to defend the country. He also said that he has been getting dozens of phone calls from retirees asking if they can come back to help without pay and asking how else they can help.

Tilley was out of the Pentagon when the hijacked jet smashed into the west side of the building. He heard the news while on the way to a Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers conference in Leesburg, Va. He said he immediately ordered the driver to get back to the Pentagon.

Once there, Tilley said he went to his office to ensure everyone had been evacuated. He said he then went outside to provide aid and comfort where needed.

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## Army not yet invoking ‘stop-loss’

By Gary Sheftick,  
Master Sgt. Jon Connor  
*Army News Service*

The Army has not decided to enact “stop-loss” authority to keep soldiers from leaving active duty, despite some rumors or reports to the contrary.

“We do not have a stop-loss requirement at this time,” said Reginald J. Brown, assistant secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

“There are all these rumors out there about stop-loss,” Brown said. “As of this point in time, we don’t see a need for it.”

Stop-loss allows the defense secretary, through a presidential executive order, to involuntarily extend servicemembers on active duty. This means that servicemem-

bers cannot retire or leave after serving their obligatory time of enlistment.

On Sept. 19, Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld delegated stop-loss authority to the heads of the military departments.

On Oct. 2, the Air Force announced a stop-loss policy that will last one month. The continuation of the policy will be determined at the end of the month, officials said.

The Navy has announced it will begin a limited program Oct. 10 affecting about 10,500 sailors in certain specialties.

The Marine Corps has stated it will announce its program in the near future.

“We’re studying it,” Brown said about stop-loss. “It’s under review.”

Right now, however, Brown said the Army is at full

strength and calling in the National Guard and Army Reserve for special needs has avoided the requirement for stop loss.

“We’ve been able to manage,” Brown said. “If we had a major mobilization, that might change things.”

If the Army opted to implement stop-loss, officials said troops would be informed through command channels and internal information sources first, and through the news media later.

Exceptions to the stop-loss policy allow the involuntary discharge of soldiers for criminal acts, under the Uniform of Code of Military Justice, or for medical reasons.

The Army last invoked stop-loss during the Gulf War.

## Army secretary to lead DoD homeland security effort

*Courtesy of DoD News*

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld announced today that he has designated Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White as the Defense Department’s executive agent for all homeland security matters.

“In the wake of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, homeland security has emerged as a paramount national priority,” White said. “As the Department of Defense executive agent for homeland security, I look forward to working closely with Gov. Tom Ridge as he leads this vital effort.”

## Protect

*From page 3*

Hazardous materials accident. There has been a hazardous materials accident that affects this area. Seek shelter inside immediately. Close all doors and windows. Turn off all ventilation systems. Tune to either Cable Channel 3 or local emergency radio stations for instructions. (Repeat)

**APG chemical emergency (post only), followed by the voice message:** Warning. Warning. There is an emergency in the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

## Prayer

*From front page*

guest speaker by Father John Bauer, Aberdeen Proving Ground parish priest.

Music for the occasion was provided by the 389th Army Band (AMC’s Own) Brass Quintet and the Oak Grove Quartet.

A Vietnam veteran, Roque retired at the rank of colonel in 1983 after 22 years. His military service includes the

Army Command and General Staff College; U.S. Army Training And Doctrine Command chaplain’s office, Germany; 3rd Infantry Brigade, 8th Infantry Division and assistant Corps chaplain, Fort Hood, Texas; and post chaplain, Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

His awards include the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal and the Distinguished Service Medal.

## CFC

*From front page*

said.

He added that donors should not be put off by contributions to the tragedies in New York and in Washington, D.C.

“Organizations still need your help,” Doyel said. “Your favorite charity still needs you.”

To better inform the community, a CFC film will be shown on WAPG-TV Channel 3 at 9 a.m., noon and 3 p.m. daily throughout the campaign period, Doyel said.

For more information, visit Doyel at the APG CFC office, building 2477 (Red Cross building), call Doyel, Leroy Carter, vice chairman, or Linda Queen at 410-278-3116, or see your unit keyperson.

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# Army brat brings to closure two careers

By E. C. Starnes  
OC&S

He’s an Army brat who has spent some 37 years in the service of his nation. Now he’s a retiree twice. While trained as an infantry officer and an ordnance officer and receiving training in mechanical maintenance, armament maintenance and as a chemical staff officer, Russell L. Childress Jr., has relied heavily on his master’s degree in education administration from American University to maintain his dual career as a green suiter and civilian employee.

This was especially true of his dual existence as the commandant of the U.S. Army Reserve Forces School in Wilmington, Del., and as deputy assistant commandant of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Throughout his years as an educator for the Army, Childress said technology has been the biggest change he has seen in the Army and in the Army training system.

“The progress in such things as e-mail, the Internet, distance learning, teleconferencing, and tele-training have been almost mind boggling,” Childress said. “We’ve gone from instructors behind a wooden podium with hand-drawn charts and chalk-board diagrams to self-produced slide shows to multimedia productions.

“We can now do live training from the Ordnance Center and Schools with students watching and being interactive throughout the world. We can now teach classes that are seen at Aberdeen Proving Ground and at the same time in Bosnia and Germany

and throughout the Regional Training Sites Maintenance in the United States,” Childress said.

But, the bottom line continues to be taking care of people, he added.

“The most valuable resource, despite all of our gains in technology in weapons systems, vehicles, and other sophisticated equipment, remains people. If you take care of them, they will not only take care of you,” he stated, “but they are postured to take care of whatever comes along.”

Among his memories are his experiences in supporting DesertStorm/Desert Shield. It was especially meaningful to him because his Army Reserve unit was called up to provide instructors to OC&S, where he was the highest ranking civilian. The biggest praise that he received during that time was that his instructors from his Reserve unit blended in so well at OC&S that the Chief of Ordnance noted that he could not tell any difference between the Reserve and active Army instructors.

“It was a total team effort,” he recalled. “We worked around the clock. Soldiers were not permitted their normal 15-day leave period that year. We not only did a lot with soldiers and training, but we were able to call upon the local communities to provide support during the holidays.”

Childress stated that having the dual role as a Reservist and civilian leader in an Army schoolhouse was beneficial. He noted that an awareness of what the active Army needed, of the time constraints of training in the Reserve arena, and of the eventual need to work together to train soldiers was beneficial in planning

and conducting meaningful training programs for both.

He retired as a colonel from his position as reserve school commandant in 1992.

With all the challenges and the hectic moments, Childress noted, “Overall it’s been a great experience and a wonderful ride. I have had a fulfilling career and will always hold positive memories of the people, soldiers and civilians who worked together to get things accomplished.”

For now, Childress plans to “spend a few months unwinding, to decompress for a while and then probably do some volunteer work. I definitely plan to spend more time with my wife, Joan, and my children and grandchildren.”

Childress received the Meritorious Civilian Service Medal during last week’s retirement ceremony.

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## Football Update

The following results were reported for intramural flag football for the week ending Sept. 28.

<b>American Division Results</b>	
<i>Sept. 10</i>	
HHC 16th, 20; NCOA, 14	
<i>Sept. 24</i>	
Company E 16th, 20; NCOA, 6	
HHC 61st, 6; HHC 16th, 0	
<i>Sept. 26</i>	
HHC 61st, 7; NCOA, 6	
HHC 16th, 14; Company E 16th, 12	
<b>Schedule</b>	
<i>Oct. 15</i>	
6:30 p.m., Company E 16th vs. HHC 16th	
7:30 p.m., HHC 61st vs. NCOA	
<i>Oct. 17</i>	
6:30 p.m., NCOA vs. HHC 16th	
7:30 p.m., Company E 16th vs. HHC 61st	
<b>Standings</b>	
HHC 61st	2-0
HHC 16th	1-1
Company E 16th	1-1
NCOA	0-2

<b>National Division Results</b>	
<i>Sept. 10</i>	
Company B 16th, 26; Company A 16th, 6	
<i>Sept. 24</i>	
Company B 16th, 24; Company C 16th, 14	
Company A 16th, 8; USMC, 6	
<i>Sept. 26</i>	
Company B 16th, 38; Company A 16th, 12	
Company C 16th, 26; USMC, 0	
<b>Schedule</b>	
<i>Oct. 15</i>	
6:30 p.m., Company B 16th vs. Company A 16th	
7:30 p.m., Company C 16th vs. USMC	
<i>Oct. 17</i>	
6:30 p.m., USMC vs. Company B 16th	
7:30 p.m., Company A 16th vs. Company C 16th	
<b>Standings</b>	
Company B 16th	3-0
Company C 16th	1-1
Company A 16th	1-2
USMC	0-2

<b>Edgewood Division Results</b>	
<i>Sept. 10</i>	
SBCCOM, 14; Company B 143rd, 6	
HHC 143rd, 21; Company C 143rd, 8	
<i>Sept. 24</i>	
Company C 143rd, 6; Company A 143rd, 0	
<i>Sept. 26</i>	
HHC 143rd, 19; Company C 143rd, 6	
SBCCOM, 31; Company B 143rd, 0	
<b>Schedule</b>	
<i>Oct. 15</i>	
6:30 p.m., Company A 143rd vs. HHC 143rd	
7:30 p.m., Company C 143rd vs. Company B 143rd	
<i>Oct. 17</i>	
6:30 p.m., HHC 143rd vs. SBCCOM	
7:30 p.m., Company C 143rd vs. Company A 143rd	
<b>Standings</b>	
HHC 143rd	2-0
SBCCOM	2-0
Company C 143rd	1-2
Company A 143rd	0-1
Company B 143rd	0-2

## Retirement

*From front page*

necessary to work as a team and to produce results that are meaningful and long lasting. They know the value of teamwork. They know the value of service. And they know the value of being a partriot, even when patriotism wasn’t popu-

lar in this country.”

Stevenson praised the families of the retirees for their support.

“You have been there,” he said, “you continue to be there and we want you to know that we appreciate everything that you have done.”

He also thanked friends and coworkers who gathered to salute the retirees.

He told those gathered that they were the monuments to friendships developed personally and professionally over the years.

All retirees received Department of the Army Certificates of Appreciation and Certificates of Retirement.

Attending spouses of retirees received APG Certificates of Appreciation.

## Retirees list

<b>Vincent Cannaliato Jr.</b> — 40 years of service Senior team leader and division chief <i>U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command</i>	<i>U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command</i>
<b>Russell L. Childress Jr.</b> — 35 years of service Deputy assistant commandant <i>U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools</i>	<b>Charles R. Stumpf</b> — 37 years of service <i>U.S. Army Research Laboratory</i>
<b>Robert M. Silcox</b> — 38 years of service Director <i>Plans, Training and Mobilization, U.S. Army Garrison, APG</i>	<b>Treva Austin</b> — 35 years of service Budget analyst <i>U.S. Army Developmental Test Command</i>
<b>Caledonia L. Henry</b> — 34 years of service <i>U.S. Army Research Laboratory</i>	<b>Shirely Bradley</b> — 26 years of service Budget analyst <i>U.S. Army Developmental Test Command.</i>
<b>Gary J. Hermann</b> — 31 years of service <i>U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command</i>	<b>Ronald O. Hagy</b> — 35 years of service <i>U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command</i>
<b>Agnes E. Minor</b> — 35 years of service Program analyst	<b>Melvin Guidry</b> — 35 years of service <i>Department of Public Works, U.S. Army Garrison, APG.</i>

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# Community Notes

**SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 6  
WACVA MONTHLY MEETING**

The Women’s Army Corps Veterans Association Maryland Free State Chapter #70 will meet 10 a.m. at the Aberdeen Senior Citizen Center. All women who have served or are serving in the Women’s Army Auxiliary Corps, Women’s Army Corps, Regular Army, Army Reserve, Army National Guard and Army Nurse Corps are welcome to attend. Also welcome, as associate members, are women of the Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard. For more information about the association, contact Wanda Story, 410-272-5040

**SUNDAY  
OCTOBER 7  
VFW SPAGHETTI DINNER**

Weedon-Elliott VFW #8126, 300 Lodge Lane, will hold a spaghetti dinner, from 2 to 6 p.m. Donations for the dinner are \$6.50 and will benefit community service programs. To make reservations, call the VFW Post at 410-939-4578.

**MONDAY  
OCTOBER 8  
AMERICAN LEGION MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Unit 47 of the Joseph L. Davis American Legion 47, 501 St. John Street, will hold a monthly membership meeting at 7 p.m. All members are encouraged to attend.

**TUESDAY  
OCTOBER 9  
VFW MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

The Weedon-Elliott VFW No. 8126, 300 Lodge Lane, Havre de Grace, will hold a monthly membership meeting at 7 p.m. All members are encouraged to attend.

**WEDNESDAY  
OCTOBER 10  
ON THE WORLD WAR II HOMEFRONT**

The Baltimore Museum of Industry will host the second annual reception for women workers of World War II and their families to form a Maryland Chapter of the American Rosie the Riveter Association. The reception is an opportunity to share stories, photos and memorabilia of working experiences. The American Rosie the Riveter Association celebrates the contributions women workers made in the war effort. Parking is free and transportation is available for this event. All women who worked in the 1940s are encouraged to attend. For more information or to register, call 410-727-4808.

**EA OWC WELCOME COFFEE**

The Edgewood Area Officers’ Wives Club is holding a free welcome coffee to greet members for the new year at the Gunpowder Club, building E-4650, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Reservations are not necessary. Those eligible for membership in the EA-OWC include military officers and spouses, active and retired, government employees of GS-7 and above, and American Red Cross personnel.

**THURSDAY  
October 11  
PRAYER BREAKFAST**

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Chapel is hosting a Prayer Breakfast, 6:30 to 7:30 a.m., at Top of the Bay. Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, installation and U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command commander will be the guest speaker. A \$5 donation may be made to defer costs of the breakfast. Seating is limited. To make a reservation, call Sgt. Anthony Harris, 410-278-4333.

**FRIDAY  
OCTOBER 12  
COUNTRY HOE DOWN**

The Harford County Country/Western Dance Association, a

non-profit organization, sponsors country western dancing each Friday at the American Legion located on Parke Street, Aberdeen. Dancing will be held 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. The instructor will announce lessons. Everyone is welcome. Cost of admission is \$10 and includes draft beer, soda, chips and pretzels. For more information, call 410-272-8318.

**SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 13  
RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY**

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Retiree Council will sponsor Retiree Appreciation Day, 8 a.m. to noon, at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326. The guest speaker is retired Maj. Gen. Richad D. Murray, presdient, National Association for Uniformed Services. Command officials will address attendees and installation activity representatives will be available to field questions. Lunch will be served in the installation dining facility, building 4503, following the presentations. Cost is \$3.25 per person. Reservations must be made by calling retired Col. Charles Shadle, 410-663-9263 or retired Command Sgt. Maj Barry Decker, 410-306-1153.

The APG Military Retiree Council is currently looking for interested retirees to join. Input from retirees is important to improve installation support in planning programs for active duty and retired personnel and their families. The council meets three or four times a year. For more information, call Shadle, 410-663-9263 or Decker, 410-306-1153.

**DELTA CARDIFF HOLDS HERITAGE FESTIVAL**

The Fifth Annual Delta Cardiff Heritage Festival will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Main Street and Pendyrus Street, Delta, Pa., at the Peach Bottom Community Center and the Rehoboth Welsh Chapel. The theme for this year’s festival is “Saluting our Service Men and Women, Honoring our Civilians.” Admission to the festival is a non-perishable food, personal care or household item (commercially packaged foods, soups, toothpaste, toothbrushes, detergent, shampoo, etc.). All admission proceeds will be donated to the Mason-Dixon Food Locker.

Activities include breakfast at Trinity AME Zion Church, located across the street from Rehoboth Welsh Chapel; demonstrations of slate splitting and welsh dancing; various singing groups; and exhibits by local organizations, churches and businesses, games, face painting, a petting zoo, a silent auction and more. The Old Line Museum also will have a large display.

No alcoholic beverages or weapons are allowed on the premises for this event. For more information, call Don and Ruth Ann Robinson, 717-456-7124, Nancy L. Smith, 717-456-5580, or David Glenn, 717-862-3538.

**WEDNESDAY  
OCTOBER 17  
VFW LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING**

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Department of Maryland, will hold a meeting at 7 p.m., to plan the 2002 National President’s Homecoming. The meeting will be held at the Aberdeen Memorial VFW #10028, behind Aberdeen Wal-Mart. Anyone who is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars or the Ladies Auxiliary, Department of Maryland, may attend.

**THURSDAY  
OCTOBER 18  
DINNERTO HONOR KOREAN VETERANS**

The Korean War Commemoration Committee is holding a dinner honoring living and deceased Korean War veterans at 6 p.m. at the Richlin Ballroom, I-95 and Route 24 in Edgewood. Maj. Gen. Jin Ha Hwang, Republic of Korea military attaché, will present ROK service medals. The guest speaker will be retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Nels Running. Music will be provided by the 389th Army Band (AMC’s Own). Tickets cost \$27 per person and should be purchased by Oct. 15. Make checks payable to Town of Bel Air, and send to 39 Hickory Avenue, Bel Air, MD 21014.

For more information, contact Ray Astor at 410-939-1369 or Blair Cross at 410-893-8145.

**SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 20  
POTOMAC MILLS MALL SHOPPINGTRIP**

The Civilian Welfare Fund is sponsoring a bus trip the Potomac Mills Mall in Virginia. The mall features 220 stores, offering discounts up to 70 percent on favorite name brand merchandise, a 15-theater movie cinema, 25 eateries and several restaurants. Get a head start on holiday shopping. The price is \$20 per person for charter bus transportation. For more information or to make reservations, call Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever at 410-278-4603/4771.

**WOMEN’S SEMINAR**

Walk of Faith Ministries is presenting a one-day Women’s Seminar with Cheryl Torain of Baltimore, and recording choir “Russell Delegation,” 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Havre de Grace High School Auditorium.

Donations are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. Proceeds will go to the Sexual Assault Resource Center of Harford County. For more information or to register, call 410-272-7944, 410-272-6583 or 410-676-0981.

**FRIDAY  
OCTOBER 26  
COUNTRY HOE DOWN**

The Harford County Country/Western Dance Association, a non-profit organization, sponsors country western dancing each Friday at the American Legion located on Parke Street in Aberdeen. Dancing will be held 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. The instructor will announce lessons. Everyone is welcome. Cost of admission is \$10 and includes draft beer, soda, chips and pretzels. For more information, call 410-272-8318.

## MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3, CHILDREN \$1.50  
Building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard



**ROCK STAR**

**Friday, Oct. 5, 7 p.m.**  
Saturday, Oct. 6, 9 p.m.

Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Jennifer Aniston

Based on a true story, an office supplies salesman moonlights as a musician in a tribute band. His life changes forever when he is chosen out of the blue to replace the lead singer of his all-time favorite band, Steel Dragon. (Rated R)

**THE MUSKETEER (FREE ADMISSION)**

**Saturday, Oct. 6, 1 p.m., 7 p.m.**  
Starring: Justin Chambers, Catherine Deneuve



D’Artagnan and his fellow Musketeers are poised for battle. These legendary men of action are sworn to fight duels and right wrongs. The Musketeers are not only defying the powers that be in 17th century France, they are also defying gravity. (Rated PG-13)

## LEAVE DONATION

**Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program are:**

Ameneh M. Arasten (maternity)	William B. McLean (kidney failure)
Fay Walker Banker (hip replacement)	Rebecca G. Mercer-Leto (heart attack)
Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia)	Stacy Miller (maternity)
Barbara Boyd (mother is ill)	Sandra W. Miller (back surgery)
Bonnie Bromley (liver transplant)	Vincent L. Mohr (knee replacement)
Daniel Brown (father has emphysema)	Shirley A. Murphy (terminal illness)
Tammy Budkey	Cecil Pennington (surgery)
Nancy Coleman-Jones (surgery)	Suaquita R Perry (maternity leave)
Tracy H Coliano-Hirsch (maternity)	Debi L. Petosky (back surgery)
Geraldine S. Cragg	Karen S Pense Mary E. Pettitway
Dawn M. Crouse (surgery)	Barbara Carol Remines (surgery)
Bonnie K. Day (surgery)	Angela L. Reeves(maternity leave)
Tricia Lin Dietz	Michael Reynolds
Fred Dill	Boyd J. Richards (care of mother)
Joseph R. Dugan	Denise Robinson (maternity)
Messina Enderlein	Ricky Ross (heart attack)
Wayne Erb (wife is ill)	Tami C. Rowland (maternity)
Michael L. Hitchcock (surgery)	Allan Scarborough (back surgery)
Melanie A. Hoffman (parasinusitis, fibromyalgia condition)	Ralph A. Scutti (care of daughter)
Stephen Howard (bone marrow transplant)	Sherry Schaffer
Wayne A. Jaynes	Lena Shelton
Evelyn K. Johnson (surgery)	Motoko Stahl
Valerie A. Jones	Rachel Swearingen
Marlin Julian (heart surgery)	Rosalind Walters-Kenion (maternity)
Mary B. Kane (surgery on leg)	Cecelia Walton (respiratory problems)
Jennifer Keetley (maternity)	Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant)
Beverly King (caring for husband)	Amber M. Vanakin (care of husband)
William Klein	Andrew M. Vaught (brain tumor removed)
Yvonne Lissimore (knee surgery)	Wanda L.Waldon (surgery)
Angela R. Little (neck and shoulder injury)	Josephine O. Wojciechowski (care for elderly parents)
Edna L. Lobodzinski (eye surgery)	

**For information about donating annual leave, call Dave Mial at 410-278-1524 or fax 410-278-7877.**

## MWR UPDATE

Edgewood Arts & Crafts is a Morale, Welfare Recreation facility and is open to active and retired military, civilians, and contractors working on Aberdeen Proving Ground and their dependents. We are located in building E-4440 next to the military police station near the troop store. Hours of operation are Thursday, 1 to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call 410-436-2153 during listed hours.

**Ceramics class**

A basic ceramics class will be held Oct. 13, Nov. 10 and Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This class teaches the basics of mold pouring, glazing, and painting. Cost is \$7 plus supplies.

**Porcelain Dolls**

Dates for this class are not yet available. Cost will be \$30 plus supplies. Class participants will make a Sugar Britches doll, a great gift for friends or family. Class size is limited and pre registration is required. This is a progressive class so participants should plan on attending all three sessions.

**Woodshop Orientation**

The woodshop will hold a safety orientation Oct. 6, Nov. 3 and Dec 1, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. The cost is the \$3 user fee. This class is required in order to use the woodshop.

**Stained Glass**

A beginning stained glass class will be held Nov. 17 and Dec. 15, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and May19 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Students will make a simple suncatcher using the copper foil method. Cost is \$25 and includes supplies.

**Framing Class**

A beginning matting and framing class will be held Nov. 29, 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. and May 24 from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Students must bring an 8 inch by 10 inch picture to class to frame. Register in advance, because class size is limited. Cost is \$15 plus supplies.

**Cross stitch thread and books are on sale for 10 cents each.**

## LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The Garrison Library has materials on the subject. Come by and check out some books.

***Assess Your True Risk of Breast Cancer*** by Patricia T. Kelly

***American Cancer Society’s Guide to Complementary and Alternative Cancer Methods***

***Breast Cancer at Time of Diagnosis*** (video) by Everett Koop

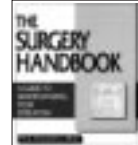
***My Breast: One Woman’s Cancer Story*** by Joyce Wadler

***The Surgery Handbook: A Guide to Understanding Your Operation*** by Paul Ruggieri

***New Cancer Therapies: The Patient’s Dilemma*** by Penelope Williams

***Second Opinion: the Columbia Presbyterian Guide to Surgery*** by Eric A. Rose

***Understanding Cancer: A Patient’s Guide to Diagnosis, Prognosis, and Treatment*** by C. Norman Coleman



The operating hours of the Aberdeen Area Library effective September 9, 2001 are Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. The operating hours of the Edgewood Area Library are Tuesday 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Friday 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

## OC&S LIBRARY

The Ordnance Center and Schools Library is located in the basement of building 3071. Hours are Monday and Thursday, noon to 5 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, noon to 7 p.m., and Friday, noon to 4 p.m.















# Pentagon casualty update: 125 dead or missing, 80 injured

**Courtesy of Army News Service**

A total of 125 Pentagon personnel were killed or remain unaccounted for following the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the building and about 80 others were injured.

Sixty-four passengers were also aboard the hijacked plane that struck the building, officials said.

To date, 118 remains have been recovered and transported to Dover Air Force Base, Del., for identification. Search and recovery operations continue.

Many of the 80 injured were treated at local military and civilian emergency rooms in the Washington, D.C. area, and released. Nine of them remained hospitalized as of Sept. 25. Four are in critical condition, another is listed as serious and four are in fair condition.

Of the 125 Pentagon personnel reported missing, 74 were Army. So far, 39 have been found and identified.

**Department of the Army civilians killed include:**

Sharon Carver, 38, Md.  
Amelia V. Fields, 36, Dumfries, Va.  
Cortez Ghee, 54, Reisterstown, Md.  
Peggie Hurt, 36, Crewe, Va.  
David W. Laychak, 40, Manassas, Va.  
Teresa M. Martin, 45, Stafford, Va.  
Ada L. Mason, 50, Springfield, Va.  
Diane Hale-McKinzy, 38, Alexandria, Va.  
Robert J. Maxwell, 53, Manassas, Va.  
Odessa V. Morris, 54, Upper Marlboro, Md.  
Ted H. Moy, 48, Silver Springs, Md.  
Diana B. Padro, 55, Woodbridge, Va.  
Deborah A. Ramsaur, 45, Annandale, Va.  
Edward V. Rowenhorst, 32, Fredricksburg, Va.  
Judy Rowlett, 44, Woodbridge, Va.  
Robert Russell, 52, Oxon Hill, Md.  
Marjorie C. Salamone, 53, Springfield, Va.

Retired Lt. Col. Gary F. Smith, 55, Alexandria, Va.  
Edna L. Stephens, 53, Washington, D.C.  
Sandra L. White, 44, Dumfries, Va.

**Army Military personnel killed include:**

Spc. Craig Amundson, 28, Kan.  
Lt. Col. Canfield D. Boone, 54, Indiana  
Lt. Col. Jerry D. Dickerson, 41, Miss.  
Maj. Wallace Cole Hogan Jr., 40, Fla.  
Lt. Col. Stephen Neil Hyland, Jr., 45, Calif.  
Sgt. Maj. Lacey B. Ivory, 43, Mo.  
Lt. Col. Dennis M. Johnson, 48, Wis.  
Maj. Stephen V. Long, 39, Ga.  
Lt. Col. Dean E. Mattson, 57, Calif.  
Lt. Gen. Timothy J. Maude, 53, Indianapolis, Ind.  
Maj. Ronald D. Milam, 33, Okla.  
Maj. Clifford L. Patterson Jr., 33, Alexandria, Va.  
Chief Warrant Officer William R. Ruth, 57, Md.  
Lt. Col. David M. Scales, 45, Cleveland, Ohio  
Maj. Kip P. Taylor, U.S. Army, 38, Mich.  
Lt. Col. Karen J. Wagner, 40, Texas  
Staff Sgt. Maudlyn A. White, 38, Christianstead, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands  
Maj. Dwayne Williams, 40, Ala.

**Department of the Army contractors killed include:**

Scott Powell, BTG Inc.  
Edmond Young, BTG Inc.

**Department of Army civilians missing include:**

Samantha Allen, 36, Hillside, Md.  
Retired Master Sgt. Max Beilke, 69, Laurel, Md.  
Carrie Blagburn, 48, Temple Hills, Md.  
Angelene Carter, 51, Forrestville, Md.  
John J. Chada, 55, Manassas, Va.

Ada M. Davis, 57, Camp Springs, Md.  
Brenda C. Gibson, 59, Falls Church, Va.  
Ronald F. Golinski, 60, Columbia, Md.  
Carolyn B. Halmon, 49, Washington, D.C.  
Sheila Hein, 51, University Park, Md.  
Jimmie Holley, 54, Lanham, Md.  
Molly McKenzie, 38, Dale City, Va.  
Brenda Kegler, 49, Washington, D.C.  
Rhonda S. Rasmussen, 44, Woodbridge, Va.  
Martha M. Reszke, 36, Stafford, Va.  
Cecelia E. Richard, 41, Fort Washington, Md.  
Janice Scott, 46, Springfield, Va.  
Michael L. Selves, 54, Fairfax, Va.  
Marian H. Serva, 47, Stafford, Va.  
Don Simmons, 58, Dumfries, Va.  
Cheryle D. Sincock, 53, Dale City, Va.  
Patricia J. Statz, 41, Tacoma Park, Md.  
Sandra C. Taylor, 50, Alexandria, Va.  
Willie Q. Troy, 51, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.  
Meta L. Waller, 60, Alexandria, Va.  
Lisa L. Young, 36, Germantown, Md.

**Army military missing include:**

Sgt. First Class Olmedo Jose Orlando Calderon, 44, Puerto Rico  
Spc. Chin Sun Pak, 24, Okla.  
Sgt. Maj. Larry L. Strickland, 52, Washington  
Sgt. Tamara C. Thurman, 25, Ala.  
Lt. Col. Karen J. Wagner, 40, Texas

**Department of the Army contractors missing include:**

Donna Bowen, Verizon Communications  
Dr. Gerald Fisher, Booz-Allen and Hamilton  
Terrance Lynch, Booz-Allen and Hamilton  
Ernest Willcher, Booz-Allen and Hamilton

## Vaccine

*From page 5*

reveal more, but that this one strongly indicates that there are no reproductive health problems associated with vaccination of military women.

“It is impossible to prove a negative, i.e., it cannot be proven that the anthrax vaccine does not cause any harm,” Wiesen explained. “The major benefit of negative studies such as this one — studies that do not show a relationship between the exposure of interest and an outcome — is that it increas-

es our confidence that there is not a relationship.

“These types of studies are always subject to criticism that they should have been bigger, or a small effect could have been overlooked, etc. However, the likelihood of that occurring in this case is very small.”

Wiesen’s report on the research is being peer-reviewed for use in a major medical journal and should be published before the end of the year.

*(Editor’s note: Harry Noyes is a member of the public affairs team for the Army’s Medical Command at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.)*



DoD photo by RUDI WILLIAMS  
Most of the people killed in the terrorist attack on the Pentagon Sept. 11 were soldiers and Army civilian employees. An Army flag and flowers were left in their honor at a memorial that sprang up near the building shortly after the attack and has been growing steadily since.

# Important TRICARE info for activated Reservists

**By Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen T. Rhem**  
*American Forces Press Service*

Federal law provides mobilized Guard and Reserve members the opportunity to keep their employer-sponsored healthcare coverage.

If the employee will be absent for more than 30 days, the employer may require the employee to pay the entire premium cost plus a 2 percent administrative fee.

The Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act of 1994 allows mobilized reservists to keep health insurance provided through their civilian employer for up to 18 months, said Air Force Col. Kathleen Woody, director of medical readiness and programs with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs.

“The employer could continue to provide coverage at no cost to the employee,” she said. If the employer requires the reservist employee to pay the whole tab, however, coverage could be cost prohibitive for many families, she acknowledged.

For members who elect healthcare for their families under TRICARE programs, USERRA allows them to return to their civilian employer insurance plans with no waiting period or

penalty for pre-existing conditions (other than service-connected conditions, which are covered by the military),” Woody said.

“For example, if a reservist elects to get his family care under TRICARE while he’s activated and his daughter subsequently is diagnosed with diabetes, he can still go back to his employer healthcare plan under the same conditions as before he was mobilized,” Woody explained.

“The family would be covered as if the reservist employee had never left.”

Dental care for both reservists and their family members fall under somewhat different rules. Since earlier this year, reserve component members and their families have been eligible to enroll in the TRICARE Dental Program.

Woody explained that reserve members who had previously enrolled in the program are automatically removed when mobilized because they receive dental care from military providers while on active duty.

Reserve members in the Dental Program pay monthly premiums of \$19.08 for one family member or \$47.69 for a family enrollment. If the reserve sponsor is called to active duty, the premiums fall to the active-duty rates of \$7.63 per month for one

family member or \$19.08 for multiple family members, Woody said.

Families who had previously declined TRICARE dental coverage but who wish to enroll after their sponsors are mobilized will be able to join at active-duty rates during the first 30 days. Enrollment forms and information are available online at [www.ucci.com/tdp/tdp.html](http://www.ucci.com/tdp/tdp.html).

Woody noted that once the sponsor leaves active duty the rates revert to the higher premiums.

For more information on TRICARE benefits, visit the program’s Web site at [www.tricare.osd.mil](http://www.tricare.osd.mil).

Information on the TRICARE Dental Program can be found at [www.ucci.com/tdp/tdp.html](http://www.ucci.com/tdp/tdp.html).

Reserve Affairs has set up a family readiness Web site at [www.defenselink.mil/ra/html/family.htm](http://www.defenselink.mil/ra/html/family.htm).

Employees with questions about their rights under USERRA should contact their agency’s human resources department or visit the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Web site, [www.esgr.org](http://www.esgr.org) or call 1-800-336-4590.

## Mobilized Reservists may retain employers’ family healthcare

**By Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen T. Rhem, USA**  
*American Forces Press Service*

Federal law provides mobilized Guard and Reserve members the opportunity to keep their employer-sponsored healthcare coverage.

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Employees with questions about their rights under this act should contact their agency’s human resources department or visit the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Web site at <http://www.esgr.org> or call 1-800-336-4590.

## Clarification on conversion between FEHB, TRICARE

The Office of Personnel Management has issued an interim rule to allow TRICARE-eligible FEHB Program annuitants and former spouses to suspend their FEHB enrollments, and then return to the FEHB Program during the Open Season, or return to FEHB coverage immediately if they involuntarily lose TRICARE coverage.

The intent of this rule is to allow TRICARE-eligible beneficiaries to avoid the expense of continuing to pay FEHB Program premiums while they are using TRICARE coverage, without endangering their ability to return to the FEHB Program in the future.

Effective Oct. 1, the National Defense Authorization Act for 2001 will reinstate TRICARE coverage for Medicare-eligible

uniformed services retirees, their survivors and eligible dependents. TRICARE coverage will be advantageous to many Medicare-eligible military system beneficiaries who now are covered under the FEHB Program as federal civilian retirees, family members, or former spouses.

Under previous FEHB regulations, an annuitant or former spouse who canceled his or her FEHB coverage to use TRICARE coverage would not be allowed to return to FEHB coverage. Therefore, OPM has issued these interim regulations, with a request for comments, to allow these FEHB participants to suspend, rather than cancel, their FEHB coverage when they begin TRICARE coverage.

Under this rule, they are allowed to return to FEHB coverage immediately if they

involuntarily lose TRICARE coverage or, if not, during the next annual FEHB Open Season.

Regulations were also amended to clarify a similar situation involving FEHB-covered annuitants and former spouses. The regulations allow an individual who drops FEHB coverage when he or she enrolls in a Medicare-sponsored plan, or in Medicaid or a similar state-sponsored program of medical assistance for the needy, to return to FEHB coverage during the annual Open Season or immediately upon being involuntarily dis-enrolled from the non-FEHB coverage.

*(Editor’s note: Source of material is the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program Web site, [www.opm.gov/insure/health/tricare.htm](http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/tricare.htm).)*



# New civilian medal parallels Purple Heart

By Gary Sheftick  
Army News Service

A new Defense of Freedom medal will honor Department of Defense civilian employees injured or killed in the line of duty. Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld unveiled the new medal Sept. 26 at a press conference. He said the medal will be the civilian equivalent of the military's Purple Heart. Its first recipients will be DoD civilians injured or killed in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks against the Pentagon and World Trade Center, Rumsfeld said.

"The president, of course, has made clear that the attacks were not just acts of terror," Rumsfeld said. "They were acts of war, military strikes against the United States of America. As such, those Department of Defense employees who were injured or killed were combat casualties."

The first presentations of the new medal may take place next month, according to Charles Abell, assistant secretary of Defense for Force Management Policy. He said the medal may also be awarded to defense contractors, on a case-by-case basis, depending upon their involvement in DoD activities.

Since criteria for the Defense of Freedom medal parallels the Purple Heart, it will be awarded to civilians who suffer serious injuries, Abell said, "not a scratch, not a bump on the head."

Requests for the medal can be submitted by anyone aware of the action, officials said, not just by those in an employee's chain of command.

The medal was designed by artists at the Institute of Heraldry, an Army organization at Fort Belvoir, Va., responsible for military insignia.

"The designs were accomplished in just a

couple of days," said Stan Haas, chief of the institute's technical and production division. He said the request for the medal came in Sept. 14 and artists Sarah LeClerc and Costella Alford worked hard to produce a number of designs.

The obverse side of the medal, designed by LeClerc, consists of a golden circle framing a bald eagle holding a shield. It exemplifies the principles of freedom and the defense of those freedoms upon which the nation is founded, officials said.

The reverse of the medal, designed by Alford, is inscribed with "On Behalf of a Grateful Nation" with a space for the recipient's name to be inscribed. A laurel wreath represents honor and high achievement, officials said.

A ribbon above the medal is red, white and blue. The red stripes commemorate valor and sacrifice, officials said. The wide blue stripe represents strength. The white stripes symbolize liberty, officials said. They added that the number of red stripes represents the four terrorist attacks using hijacked airplanes and the single blue stripe represents the terrorist strike on the Pentagon.

"These strikes were the first on American soil since the Second World War, and the first attack on our capital by a foreign enemy since the War of 1812," Rumsfeld said when he announced the new award.

"These assaults have brought the battlefield home to us. As a result, a large number of DoD civilians gave their lives in combat. Their sacrifice also requires recognition."

"The establishment of this decoration is a fitting honor and a tribute to the extraordinary dedication and service of the department's civilian workforce," Rumsfeld said.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

## Bish named Master Instructor of the Year

Dave Bish, left, demonstrates a jujitsu take down technique on sparring partner Sylvia Saporta. Bish, a health systems specialist at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, was inducted into the U.S. Martial Arts Association Hall of Fame in August during the organization's 2001 Hall of Fame and National Training Camp in Tulsa, Okla.

# KUSAHC employee inducted into U.S. Martial Arts Hall of Fame

By Yvonne Johnson  
APG News

David T. Bish, a health systems specialist at Kirk, U.S. Army Health Clinic, joined the ranks of world-renowned martial artists when he was inducted into the U.S. Martial Arts Association Hall of Fame in August.

Bish was named Master Instructor of the Year during the organization's 2001 Hall of Fame and National Training Camp ceremonies Aug. 11 in Tulsa, Okla.

The retired sergeant first class was recognized as a seventh degree black belt in jujitsu for his mastery of martial arts and for his participation in community service activities.

He said the honor was humbling.

"Nominees are judged on what we do to benefit the art rather than ourselves," Bish said. "It's gratifying to learn

your efforts are appreciated."

He said he became interested in the art in 1969 while still in high school in his hometown of Columbia, Pa.

"It turned my life around," he said. "The discipline, meditation and self control aspects caused me to refocus and dedicate myself to more positive things."

Over the past 32 years, he has obtained black belts in jujitsu, judo and Kenpo.

A specialist at teaching martial arts to children with learning disorders, Bish said that working with special needs children offers special challenges.

"You have to use a patient approach, though some pick up things a lot faster than others," he said. "Most are more determined to succeed."

As a member of the American Society for Law Enforcement Trainers, Bish

provides annual training in police defense tactics to local law enforcement agencies, and has conducted self-defense seminars for Aberdeen Proving Ground's Federal Women's Program training seminars for the last three years.

When not volunteering, Bish operates his own school in Havre de Grace where he teaches adults and children in traditional Japanese jujitsu, and kenjutsu.

He said his time in the military afforded him the opportunity to travel the world, study with different teachers or Sensei and grow in his art.

"I teach because I love the art and I want to return to my students all that the martial arts have given me," Bish said.

While in the Army, Bish served three tours at Aberdeen Proving Ground before retiring in 1995.

# POW/MIA

From front page

an incident where he stopped to thank a group of young men he saw waving flags.

"One of them said "No, thank you for serving our country, sir," he said.

The incident, for him, underlined the meaning of the flag's colors, Kreiner added, noting that the color red stands for heartiness, valor and courage, white represents purity and innocence and blue is for justice.

Kreiner, introduced the programs' guests who included Brig. Gen. Dean R. Ertwine, commander U.S. Army Developmental Test Command and his wife, Linda; Col. Mardi U. Mark, APG garrison and deputy installation commander and her husband retired Lt. Col. Edward Fallon and Col. Kone Brugh II, representing the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools.

Maj. Ernest Vermont, 61st Ordnance Brigade chaplain delivered the invocation. Vermont, whose father, a former POW from the Battle of the Bulge was in the audience, led a prayer for POW/MIA survivors and their families.

"For those who remember the tortures of war, grant them your peace in the healing of body and mind," Vermont prayed.

Father John Bauer, APG parish priest, performed the benediction.

The program included a proclamation presentation by Harford County Council members Michael Geppi and Veronica Chenowith and a moving remembrance ceremony performed by the Vietnam Veterans of America honor guard. Two former POWs spoke on how they overcame their captivity.

Michael Romanelli, a corporal with the 94th Infantry Division in Europe during World War II was captured in January 1945. He was part of the force march across Germany that lasted from February to April.

"We were cold, hungry and dirty, living on one slice of black bread a day," Romanelli said. "It's amazing, remarkable and astonishing what the human body can endure."

He said he spent many nights with only a cardboard box to shield him from the elements, "the kind many homeless veterans use today."

The experience left him grateful to be alive,

he said, yet troubled that he was spared when so many others were not.

"I come here not seeking praise or honor but out of an obligation to share with you for so many others who cannot speak," Romanelli said.

The Japanese captured retired Master Sgt. Albert J. Bland, of the former U.S. Army Air Corps, during the Pacific campaign. Bland said he was sent to Manila where his captors ignored the Geneva Convention codes, executed prisoners for minor infractions and force marched them for days, feeding them only one bowl of rice per week. Upon his release, Bland recalled there were no "red carpets" for returning POWs.

"We didn't get any parades or hooplas," Bland said. "All we got to do was come home and go about our business."

He thanked his wife of 56 years, Alberta for putting up with him, saying the acronym "POW" also stands for the 'poor old wives' who wait for our return. "They are the reason we survive," Bland said.

Political guests included Maryland state senator Bob Hooper, delegates Joanne S. Parrott and B. Daniel Riley and members of the Harford County Council and Chamber of Commerce.

Representing local veteran organizations were Blair Cross, chairman of the Commission on Veterans Affairs; retired Maj. Arnett Powers, Veterans of Foreign Wars; Joseph Crivello, Disabled American Veterans; Anthony Cirincione, Korean War Veterans Association; Judith Fortier, Women's Army Corps Veterans Association; Terry Ramsey, Catholic War Veterans; and Col. Walter Mueller, American Legion. The Maryland Wing Civil Air Patrol Band led by Maj. George Carroll provided musical selections and Cpl. Gregory Prioleau, Maryland Transportation Authority Police, sang the National Anthem.

Participating color guards for the ceremony included the Vietnam Veterans of America, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion Post 39, Maryland Chapter Korean War Veterans, the Maryland Transportation Authority Police, the Harford County Sheriff's Department and the Women's Army Corps Veterans Association.

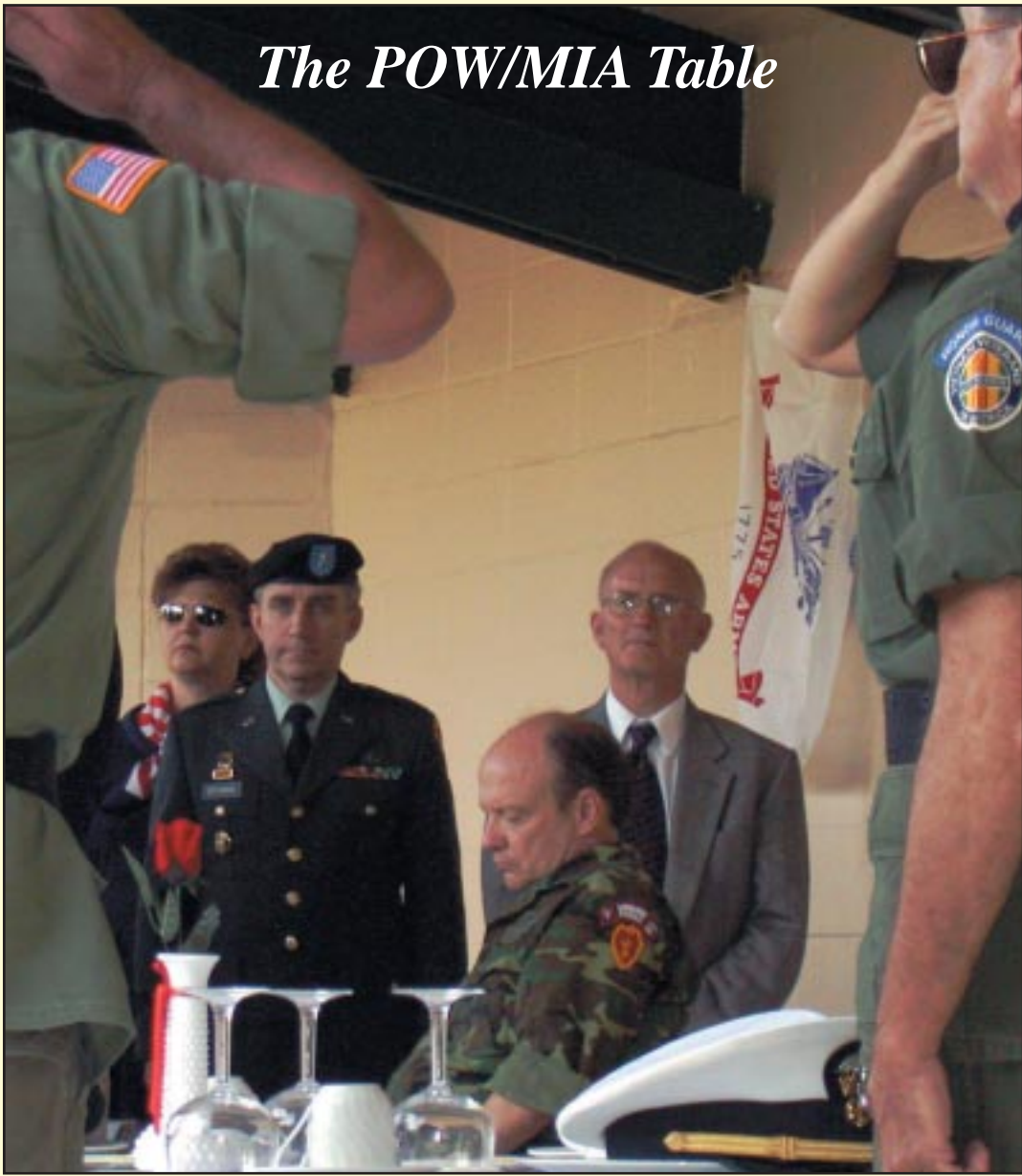


Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

From left, Linda Ertwine, Brig. Gen. Dean Ertwine, commander U.S. Army Developmental Test Command, Joseph Crivello, Disabled American Veterans, and Maryland State Senator Bob Hooper, take in the Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Remembrance Ceremony as members of the Vietnam Veterans of America honor guard salute the POW/MIA table.

The POW/MIA table symbolizes the fact that members of our profession of arms are missing from our midst. They are commonly called POWs or MIAs. We call them brothers. They are unable to be with us and so we remember them. This table set is small...it symbolizes the frailty of one prisoner against his oppressors. The tablecloth is white...it symbolizes the purity of their intentions to respond to their country's call to arms. The single rose displayed in a vase reminds us of the families and loved ones of our comrades in arms who keep faith awaiting their return. The red ribbon tied so prominently on the vase is remi-

niscient of the red ribbon worn on the lapel and breasts of thousands who bear witness to their unyielding determination to demand a proper accounting for our missing. A slice of lemon is on the bread plate... to remind us of their bitter fate. There is salt upon the bread plate...symbolic of the family's tears as they wait. The glasses are inverted...they cannot toast with us tonight. The chair is empty...they are not here. Remember...all of you who served with them and called them comrades, who depended on their might and aid, and relied on them...for surely...they have not forsaken you.



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